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TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, BU

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: BULGARIAN ART EXHIBIT

REF: SOFIA 960

1. DEPARTMENT HAS CONTACTED NATIONAL COLLECTION OF FINE ARTS RE POSSIBILITY OF ARRANGING FOR US SHOWING OF BULGARIAN ART EXHIBIT SUCH AS THOSE MENTIONED PARA THREE REFTEL. NCFA REPLIES THAT A US MUSEUM WHICH HAS HAD EXPERIENCE PROGRAMING SOVIET AND ROMANIAN EXHIBITS MAY POSSIBLY BE INTERESTED IN DOING SAME FOR THRACIAN ART EXHIBIT. IN ORDER MAKE A FIRM DECISION TO ACT AS ORGANIZER OF US TOUR, THIS MUSEUM WOULD NEED ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

2. WHAT TYPES OF OBJECTS ARE IN THE THRACIAN EXHIBIT?
COULD THE POST FORWARD PHOTOS OF SOME ITEMS AND CATALOG

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(PREFERABLY IN ENGLISH, BUT CAN MANAGE WITH FRENCH)?

3. WHAT SQUARE FOOTAGE WOULD EXHIBIT REQUIRE?

4. WOULD SPRING 1976 BE FEASIBLE FOR INITIAL OPENING OF EXHIBIT IN US?

5. HOW LONG WOULD US TOUR BE AND TO HOW MANY MUSEUMS? FYI, IF ONLY TO ONE OR TWO, MUSEUM COULD HANDLE PROGRAM BY

ITSELF. IF MORE EXTENSIVE TOUR PLANNED, MUSEUM WOULD HAVE TO HIRE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL AND WOULD THEREFORE HAVE TO CHARGE SERVICE FEE TO COVER THIS.

6. WOULD EXHIBIT BE FULLY ENSURED BY BULGARIANS AND WOULD IT BE ACCOMPANIED BY CURATOR (S) AND HANDLERS AT BULGARIAN EXPENSE?

7. WOULD IT COME WITH ITS OWN REUSABLE TRAVELING CASES AND INSTALLATION UNITS OR DEVICES AS REQUIRED? FYI, SOVIETS HIRED US FIRM TO MOUNT THERI FOLK ART EXHIBIT WHEN IT WAS SHOWN HERE.

8. HOW WOULD US TOUR BE FUNDED? INTERESTED MUSEUM WOULD CHARGE NO RENT, BUT ALSO WOULD BE UNWILLING INCUR EXPENSES BECAUSE OF EXHIBIT.

9. WHAT TYPES OF ARRANGEMENTS RE FUNDING ARE BEING MADE IN EUROPE? ARE EUROPEAN MUSEUMS RESPONSIBLE FOR CERTAIN EXPENSES, AND IF SO, WHAT?

10. WAHT KIND OF PRINTED MATERIAL WOULD ACCOMPANY EXHIBIT? WOULD THERE BE A CATALOG IN ENGLISH? WOULD IT BE AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE AND IF SO, WOULD THE US MUSEUM BE ABLE TO SELL IT AT COST?

11. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S DISCUSSING ABOVE QUESTIONS WITH APPROPRIATE BULGARIAN AUTHORITIES, TO EXTENT

POSSIBLE. IF PROBLEM OF FUNDING CAN BE RESOLVED (AND DEPARTMENT WILL TRY BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THIS REGARD), BELIEVE TOUR COULD BECOME REALITY, GIVEN INTEREST SHOWN BY US MUSEUM. PLEASE ADVISE. SISCO

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